

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 07852 010817Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O 010725Z AUG 76 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6851

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 7852

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM BYROADE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)
SUBJ: SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT IN PAKISTAN

REF: (A) STATE 190412, (B) STATE 190359, (C) ISLAMABAD 7842

1. YOUR INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTEL A WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT AND PAINFUL TO CARRY OUT. I AM GRAVELY CONCERNED THAT WE MAY DEEPLY ALIENATE BHUTTO BY APPEARING TO BE OVERLY SENSITIVE TO POSSIBLE AFGHAN REACTIONS AND THEREBY SPOIL THE ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH YOU WILL ADDRESS THE IMPORTANT SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE OF NUCLEAR REPROCESSING WHICH CONFRONTS US. THIS HASSLE OVER VENUE, COUPLED WITH THE LANGUAGE IN THE PROPOSED JOINT STATEMENT ON PAKISTAN'S SECURITY AND INDEPENDENCE (WHICH BHUTTO IS SURE TO READ AS AN ATTEMPT TO WATER DOWN OUR EARLIER STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT FOR PAKISTAN'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY -- SEE REFTELS B AND C), ARE BOUND TO MAKE BHUTTO THINK WE ARE CONSIDERABLY LESS INTERESTED IN PAKISTAN THAN WE HAD LED HIM TO BELIEVE OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

2. BOTH BHUTTO AND AGHA SHAHI ARE NOW IN BALUCHISTAN AND INACCESSIBLE TODAY. I BELIEVE I MUST CONVEY THE MESSAGE ON PESHAWAR DIRECTLY TO BHUTTO AND WILL DO SO AS SOON AS I AM ABLE TO GET TO HIM, BUT I FEAR THIS MAY TAKE ANOTHER DAY OR SO.

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3. IN ORDER TO CONVEY SOMETHING MORE POSITIVE TO BHUTTO WHILE I ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE HIM TO GIVE UP ON PESHAWAR, I WOULD APPRECIATE AUTHORITY TO TELL BHUTTO WE WANT TO SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE IN THE PROPOSED JOINT STATEMENT FOR THE PRESENT LANGUAGE ON THE "SECURITY AND INDEPENDENCE" OF PAKISTAN: "THE U.S. REAFFIRMED ITS CONTINUING STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE SECURITY, INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF PAKISTAN." I REALIZE THAT THIS FORMULATION IS STRONGER THAN WHAT WE PROPOSE TO SAY IN THE JOINT STATEMENT WITH AFGHANISTAN, BUT OUR RELATIONSHIP TO PAKISTAN OF COURSE HAS A TOTALLY DIFFERENT HISTORY AND INVOLVES COMMITMENTS WE HAVE NEVER MADE TO ANY AFGHAN GOVERNMENT. IF I CAN REASSURE BHUTTO NOW THAT THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE SUBSTANCE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP, I MAY BE ABLE TO SOFTEN THE BLOW ON PESHAWAR.

4. PLEASE ADVISE ON PARA 3 BY NIACT IMMEDIATE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
BYROADE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ISLAMA07852
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760296-0986
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760898/aaaadidy.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 190412, 76 STATE 190359, 76 ISLAMABAD 7842
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT IN PAKISTAN
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006